

Problem 7.64)

a) Lorenz Gauge: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{i}\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 - (i\omega/c^2)\psi_0 = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 = (\omega/c^2)\psi_0.$

b) $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\psi - \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} \rightarrow \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = (-i\mathbf{k}\psi_0 + i\omega\mathbf{A}_0)\exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]$
 $\rightarrow \mathbf{E}_0 = i(\omega\mathbf{A}_0 - \mathbf{k}\psi_0) \rightarrow \mathbf{E}_0 = i\omega[\mathbf{A}_0 - (c/\omega)^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0)\mathbf{k}].$

$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \rightarrow \mathbf{B}_0 = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}_0 = i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0.$

c) In free space, $\rho_{\text{free}} = 0$, $\mathbf{J}_{\text{free}} = 0$, $\mathbf{P} = 0$, and $\mathbf{M} = 0$. Consequently, $\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$. Maxwell's equations thus become

i) $\nabla \cdot \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} = 0 \rightarrow i\epsilon_0 \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}_0 = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot (\omega\mathbf{A}_0 - \mathbf{k}\psi_0) = 0$
 $\rightarrow \omega \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 - \mathbf{k}^2 \psi_0 = 0 \rightarrow (\omega/c)^2 \psi_0 - \mathbf{k}^2 \psi_0 = 0 \rightarrow \text{Either } \psi_0 = 0 \text{ or } \mathbf{k}^2 = (\omega/c)^2.$

ii) $\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \rightarrow \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mu_0 \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{c^2 \partial t} \rightarrow i\mathbf{k} \times (i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0) = -(i\omega/c^2)\mathbf{E}_0$
 $\rightarrow (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0)\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}^2 \mathbf{A}_0 = -(\omega/c^2)(\omega\mathbf{A}_0 - \mathbf{k}\psi_0)$
 $\rightarrow [\mathbf{k}^2 - (\omega/c)^2]\mathbf{A}_0 = [\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 - (\omega/c^2)\psi_0]\mathbf{k} = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{k}^2 = (\omega/c)^2.$

iii) $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \rightarrow i\mathbf{k} \times [i(\omega\mathbf{A}_0 - \mathbf{k}\psi_0)] = i\omega(i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0)$
 $\rightarrow \omega \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0 - (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{k})\psi_0 = \omega \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0 \rightarrow (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{k})\psi_0 = 0 \rightarrow 0 = 0.$

iv) $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \rightarrow i\mathbf{k} \cdot (i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{A}_0) = 0 \rightarrow (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 = 0 \rightarrow 0 = 0.$

Thus, the only constraint on the parameters, aside from the Lorenz gauge $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0 = (\omega/c^2)\psi_0$, is $\mathbf{k}^2 = (\omega/c)^2$.

d) The plane-wave is inhomogeneous (or evanescent) when the imaginary component of \mathbf{k} is non-zero. The constraint $\mathbf{k}^2 = (\omega/c)^2$ thus yields

$$\mathbf{k}^2 = (\omega/c)^2 \rightarrow (\mathbf{k}' + i\mathbf{k}'') \cdot (\mathbf{k}' + i\mathbf{k}'') = (\omega/c)^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{k}'^2 - \mathbf{k}''^2 + 2i\mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{k}'' = (\omega/c)^2$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{k}'^2 - \mathbf{k}''^2 = (\omega/c)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{k}' \cdot \mathbf{k}'' = 0.$$

For the plane-wave to be evanescent, it is thus necessary for \mathbf{k}' and \mathbf{k}'' to be orthogonal to each other. It is also necessary for $|\mathbf{k}'|$ to be greater than ω/c , so that $|\mathbf{k}''|$ will be real-valued.

e) When \mathbf{k} is a real-valued vector, i.e., when $\mathbf{k}'' = 0$, the plane-wave will be homogeneous. Both \mathbf{E}_0 and \mathbf{B}_0 will then be proportional to the transverse component $\mathbf{A}_{0\perp} = \mathbf{A}_0 - (c/\omega)^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_0)\mathbf{k}$ of \mathbf{A}_0 , with \mathbf{B}_0 rotated around the \mathbf{k} -vector by 90° . The plane-wave will be linearly polarized if

the real and imaginary parts of this transverse vector potential, namely, $A'_{o\perp}$ and $A''_{o\perp}$, happen to be parallel to each other, or if one of them (either $A'_{o\perp}$ or $A''_{o\perp}$) vanishes.

f) Again, the plane-wave is homogeneous when $k''=0$. As before, \mathbf{E}_o and \mathbf{B}_o will be proportional to $A_{o\perp}$, with \mathbf{B}_o rotated around \mathbf{k} by 90° . The plane-wave will be circularly polarized if $A'_{o\perp}$ and $A''_{o\perp}$ happen to be equal in magnitude and perpendicular to each other.

g) The time-averaged rate of flow of electromagnetic energy is given by the time-averaged Poynting vector, that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) = \frac{1}{2} \exp(-2\mathbf{k}'' \cdot \mathbf{r}) \text{Re}(\mathbf{E}_o \times \mathbf{H}_o^*) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \exp(-2\mathbf{k}'' \cdot \mathbf{r}) \text{Re}\{(\omega \mathbf{A}_o - \mathbf{k} \psi_o) \times \mu_o^{-1} \mathbf{k}^* \times \mathbf{A}_o^*\} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-2\mathbf{k}'' \cdot \mathbf{r})}{2\mu_o} \text{Re}\{[(\mathbf{A}_o \cdot \mathbf{A}_o^*) \mathbf{k}^* - (\mathbf{k}^* \cdot \mathbf{A}_o) \mathbf{A}_o^*] \omega + [(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}^*) \mathbf{A}_o^* - (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_o^*) \mathbf{k}^*] \psi_o\}. \end{aligned}$$
